



CITY OF LODI COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Authorize the Mayor, on Behalf of the City Council, to Send a Letter in Support of AB 1594 Regarding Prohibiting Construction of the Peripheral Canal

MEETING DATE: May 5, 2010

PREPARED BY: City Manager


RECOMMENDED ACTION: Authorize the Mayor, on behalf of the City Council, to send a letter in support of AB 1594 regarding prohibiting construction of the Peripheral Canal.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Assemblywoman Huber's office has asked the City of Lodi to send a letter supporting AB 1594, which would prohibit construction of a peripheral canal unless authorized by the State Legislature via a public vote.

In addition, the bill would require several steps prior to construction of a peripheral canal:

- The Legislative Analyst's Office would have to complete an economic feasibility analysis before the Legislature could authorize construction;
- Construction and operation of a peripheral canal may not diminish or negatively affect water supplies, water rights or quality of water for water users within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed;
- A canal may not impose any new burdens on infrastructure within, or financial burdens on persons residing in the Delta or Delta watershed.

The City has several reasons to support this legislation, which is largely opposed by water agencies in favor of exporting more Delta water to the south. The City has a long-term contract to purchase Mokelumne River water and does not want that agreement affected by interests outside this area; the Mokelumne River provides recreational and quality-of-life benefits to Lodi that may be affected by a peripheral canal, and the Lodi community has made significant investments in wastewater treatment and electricity generation on City property near Interstate 5, facilities whose operations may be adversely affected by a peripheral canal.


Blair King
City Manager

APPROVED:


Blair King, City Manager